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FOR AMBASSADOR LILLEY

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TAGS: PREL' CH

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION WITH MINISTER GIAN

BELOW IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT!AL MEMCON WITH DIAN QICHEN. FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BEGIN TEXT

SECRET

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOREIGN MINISTER GIAN GICHEN (U)

PARTICIPANTS: THE PRESIDENT

JAMES A. BAKER, SECRETARY OF STATE

JOHN H. JURUNU, CHIEF OF JEAFF

BROND SUDWEROFT ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

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TOR WATICNAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

ROBERT M. GATES. ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS RICHARD H. SOLOMON. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

JAMES R. LILLEY, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE PRO DOUGLAS PAAL, DIRECTOR, ASIAN AFFAIRS, NSC STAFF

JAMES BROWN, INTERPRETER

OLAN DICHEN, FOREIGN MINISTER ZHU QIZHEN. AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. ZHANG YIJUN, MFA, DIRECTOR, AMERICAS DIVISION

SHEN GUOFANG, SECRETARY TO THE FOREIGN

MINISTER

LU SHUMIN, MFA

TIAN JUNTING, MFA

GAO SHUMAO, MFA

MA XUESONG, INTERPRETER

DATE TIME NOVEMBER 30, 1990, 1:44 - 2:20 P.M. EST

AND PLACE: CABINET ROOM

(THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED TWO QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA DURING THE PHOTO OP PRECEDING THE MEETING.) (U)

REPORTER: MR PRESIDENT, HAS CHINA ATONED FOR TIANANMEN SQUARE? (U)

THE PRESIDENT: HAVE THEY WHAT? (U)

REPORTER: HAVE THEY ATONED FOR TIANANMEN SQUARE? (U)

THE PRESIDENT: WELL, I THINK THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT KNOWS THAT WE HAVE SOME DIFFERENCES ON THIS WHOLE BROAD QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. BUT WE HAVE MANY THINGS IN COMMON.

PAGE TO AT OF 10 STATE 415342 PRESIZE CHIZED 000507 NOD672 ONE GOOD THING IS WE HAVE A VERY FRANK RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS FOREIGN MINISTER AND AN ABILITY TO DISCUSS THINGS OPENLY. HE'S GOT SOME PROBLEMS WITH SOME THINGS, PERHAPS WE HAVE DONE AND IN THIS AREA THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES. BUT THAT'S ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS KIND OF MEETING -- IS TO REDUCE THESE DIFFERENCES AND GO FORWARD. (U)

REPORTER: ARE YOU THINKING OF ELIMINATING SANCTIONS? (U)

THE PRESIDENT: WE ARE GOING TO DISCUSS A WIDE ARRAY OF QUESTIONS, AND I THINK IT WILL GO VERY WELL. AND I -- AS I SAY, BOTH SIDES ARE TRYING TO STRENGTHEN AND BUILD ON THIS RELATIONSHIP THAT BOTH RECOGNIZE AS IMPORTANT. AND I WILL HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND I EXPECT THAT HE WILL REPORT THAT BACK VERY ACCURATELY TO THE LEADERS IN BEIJING, HOW STRONGLY I FEEL ON SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS. AND HE WILL HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TODAY TO PRESENT CHINA'S VIEWS ON THESE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. (U)

I AM ALWAYS INCLINED TO EMPHASIZE THE POSITIVE. AND THERE ARE MANY POSITIVE AND VERY IMPORTANT ASPECTS TO THIS RELATIONSHIP -- VERY IMPORTANT. AND NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS THAT CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE MADE COMMON GROUND IN TERMS OF STANDING UP AGAINST AGGRESSION. AND THAT IS IMPORTANT TO EVERY AMERICAN; IT IS IMPORTANT I THINK. TO THE CHINESE SIDE AS WELL. (U)

MR. FITZWATER: LIGHTS. THANK YOU. (U)

THE PRESIDENT: THANK YOU, GUYS, IT'S BEEN A GREAT PLEASURE. (LAUGHTER) (U)

HOW MANY BRAVE SOULS ARE GOING TO SOUTH AMERICA? ALL RIGHT. REST UP. (U)

I AM TAKING A TRIP TO BRAZIL, ARGENTINA URUGUAY, CHILE

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FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN: A LONG TRIP. (U)

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END OF CONVERSATION --END OF TEXT. BAKER